

CLAIMS:

1. An electronic mail system comprising:
storage means for registering execution
applications of a plurality of application service
providers;
means for settling the utilization charge for
each user corresponding to the amount of utilization of
each application and the application service charge
acquired by each application service provider;
means for generating, in said application
service provider registration storage means,
application service provider registration information
in response to an application registration request
which may be received from any application service
provider; and
means for executing a plurality of
applications of a plurality of different application
service providers.
2. An electronic mail system according to Claim
1, wherein said means for generating the application
service provider registration information includes:
means for generating, in said application
service provider registration storage means, the
application service provider registration information
for the electronic mail system, based on the
applications for registration filed by a plurality of
the application service providers;
means for adding a new application to said

application service provider registration storage means;

means for deleting an application from said application service provider registration storage means; and

means for updating a previous application for the electronic mail system based on the data of the application updated at the time of version-up of a registered application.

3. An electronic mail system according to Claim 1, wherein said means for executing the applications of a plurality of different application service providers includes:

means for calling an application from said application service provider registration storage means and converting an executable application into an icon;

means for generating an execution screen in response to an instruction to execute the application selected through the icon; and

means for taking a log of the start time and the end time of the execution of an application.

4. An electronic mail system according to Claim 1, further comprising means for executing an application in bench mark mode, and bench mark means for preventing the utilization charge from being levied for an application executed for not longer than a predetermined time by the user desirous of checking the performance of said application.

5. An electronic mall system according to Claim 1,

wherein said settlement means levies the total amount of the application utilization charge for each application user and the application service charge acquired for each user by a plurality of the application service providers,

said total amount of the application utilization charge for each user being calculated based on the utilization charge information of said application service provider registration storage means and the information on the utilization start time and the utilization end time of said application generated by the application execution function,

said application service charge being calculated based on the amount of the application utilized for each of said application service providers.

6. A method for executing applications of an electronic mall, comprising the steps of:

settling an utilization charge for each user corresponding to the amount of utilization of each application and the application service charge acquired by each application service provider;

storing the application service provider registration information in storage means in response to a request, if any, for application registration from an application service provider; and

executing applications of a plurality of different application service providers.

7. A computer-readable storage medium for executing applications of an electronic mall, comprising the functions of:

settling an utilization charge for each user corresponding to the amount of utilization of each application and the application service charge acquired by each application service provider;

storing the application service provider registration information in storage means in response to a request, if any, for application registration from an application service provider; and

executing applications of a plurality of different application service providers.

8. An electronic mall system linked with a plurality of application service providers, comprising:

an electronic mall including storage means for registering the execution applications of a plurality of application service providers, means for settling the utilization charge of each user corresponding to the amount of utilization of each application and the application service charge acquired by each application service provider, means for generating the application service provider registration information in said storage means in response to an application registration request, if any, from said application service provider, and means

for executing the applications of a plurality of different application service providers;

at least a user terminal processing unit for requesting said electronic mail to process an application; and

a plurality of application service provider units connected to said electronic mail through a network.